



# Avoid the 30 Riverside County PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## WINTER HOLIDAY AVOID DUI CAMPAIGN – SECOND THURSDAY UPDATE

### *DUI Arrests Down & DUI Fatalities Down*

The Winter Holiday Anti-DUI crackdown has resulted in more DUI arrests from local routine traffic enforcement and special Avoid the 30 DUI deployments in Riverside County.

From 12:01 AM, Friday, December 14, 2012, through Midnight, Wednesday, December 26, 2012, officers representing 30 Riverside County law enforcement agencies have arrested 466 individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In 2011, 474 DUI arrests occurred during the same thirteen (13) day time period.

**(\*\*NOTE: These numbers are only provisional with some agencies yet to report\*\*)**

There were no DUI deaths over the past ten days. Last year, there were five deaths during this same time period attributed to impaired driving.

Heading into the holiday weekend, checkpoints will be held in the cities of Eastvale, Indian Wells, La Quinta, Moreno Valley, Palm Desert, Palm Springs and San Jacinto. DUI saturation patrols will be deployed into the cities of Banning, Beaumont, Blythe, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, La Quinta, Lake Perris, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Palm Springs, Perris and Riverside. A multi-agency task force from Region 2 will blanket the cities of Corona, Eastvale, Moreno Valley and Riverside. CHP will be also be conducting checkpoints, task force operations and roving patrols throughout the county.

All regularly scheduled traffic and patrol officers will continue to focus their efforts at stopping and arresting DUI drivers during their normal shifts.

The Avoid the 30 Task Force recommends three simple steps people can take to stay safe and out of trouble:

1. Plan ahead and designate a sober driver or find another safe way home.
2. If you are impaired, find another way home. Use a taxi, call a sober friend or use public transportation. **The Auto Club (AAA) sponsors a complimentary Topsy Tow service on New Year's Eve and on the Fourth of July. This service offers free rides to drivers who have been drinking. Ask for a Topsy Tow by calling 1-800-400-4AAA (4222).**
3. Be responsible. If someone you know is drinking, do not let them get behind the wheel. Your actions may save someone's life, and your inaction could cost a life.

Police officers, sheriff deputies and the CHP encourage all motorists to help make your community safer: **Report Drunk Drivers – Call 911!** Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. DUI arrest data collection will continue through Tuesday, January 1, 2013.

**Media Notes:** To schedule an interview regarding anti-drunk driving efforts, or to request a ride-along with law enforcement during the holiday period, please contact Sergeant Skip Showalter at 951-351-6046 or via email at [sshowalter@riversideca.gov](mailto:sshowalter@riversideca.gov)

For Riverside County Avoid the 30 program information and results, visit [avoidthe30.org](http://avoidthe30.org) or [facebook.com/Avoidthe30](https://www.facebook.com/Avoidthe30). The California Office of Traffic Safety and the Avoid the 30 Task Force remind everyone to please – **Report Drunk Driving – Call 9-1-1!**

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